

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. **(Currently Amended)** A hydrodynamic bearing system, comprising:

a shaft;

a bearing sleeve, said bearing sleeve having an inner cylindrical bore and said shaft being inserted into said inner cylindrical bore;

a bearing gap formed between said shaft and said bearing sleeve, said bearing gap being filled with a lubricating oil; and

a shield enclosing said bearing sleeve,

wherein said bearing sleeve further comprises a recess ~~having~~ defining with a top surface of said bearing sleeve, an acute angle, which defines a pointed edge with an acute angle and wherein said shield is secured to said bearing sleeve by being pressed against said pointed edge of said recess.

2. **(Previously Presented)** The hydrodynamic bearing system according to Claim 1 further comprising at least one ring, said ring being configured to be inserted into said recess to press said shield to said pointed edge.

3. **(Original)** The hydrodynamic bearing system according to Claim 1 further comprising at least one bearing element mounted on said shaft, wherein said bearing gap is formed between said bearing sleeve and said bearing element.

4. **(Original)** The hydrodynamic bearing system according to Claim 1 further comprising a lubricating oil reservoir, wherein said shield is secured within said recess of said bearing sleeve at a position that is distanced from said lubricating oil reservoir.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The hydrodynamic bearing system according to Claim 1, wherein said shield is secured to said bearing sleeve at a position on an end surface that is distanced from said bearing gap, and wherein said shield does not contact said lubricating oil.

6. **(Original)** The hydrodynamic bearing system according to Claim 2, wherein said ring is a metal ring.

7. **(Canceled)**

8. **(Currently Amended)** A spindle motor having a hydrodynamic bearing system, said hydrodynamic bearing system comprising:

a shaft;

a bearing sleeve, said bearing sleeve having an inner cylindrical bore and said shaft being inserted into said inner cylindrical bore;

a bearing gap formed between said shaft and said bearing sleeve, said bearing gap being filled with a lubricating oil; and

a shield enclosing said bearing sleeve,

wherein said bearing sleeve further comprises a recess ~~having~~ defining with a top surface of said bearing sleeve, an acute angle, which defines a pointed edge with an

~~acute angle~~ and wherein said shield is secured to said bearing sleeve by being pressed against said pointed edge of said recess.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The spindle motor according to Claim 8 further comprising at least one ring, said ring being configured to be inserted into said recess to press said shield to said pointed edge.

10. **(Original)** The spindle motor according to Claim 8 further comprising at least one bearing element mounted on said shaft, wherein said bearing gap is formed between said bearing sleeve and said bearing element.

11. **(Original)** The spindle motor according to Claim 8 further comprising a lubricating oil reservoir, wherein said shield is secured within said recess of said bearing sleeve at a position that is distanced from said lubricating oil reservoir.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The spindle motor according to Claim 8, wherein said shield is secured to said bearing sleeve at a position on an end surface that is distanced from said bearing gap, and wherein said shield does not contact said lubricating oil.

13. **(Original)** The spindle motor according to Claim 9, wherein said ring is a metal ring.

14. **(Canceled)**